

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 with respect to preagreement costs of emergency watershed protection measures, and for other purposes.

---

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. ROMNEY (for himself and Mr. BENNET) introduced the following bill;  
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

---

**A BILL**

To amend the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 with respect to preagreement costs of emergency watershed protection measures, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Making Access To  
5 Cleanup Happen Act of 2023” or the “MATCH Act of  
6 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROGRAM.**

2 Section 403 of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978  
3 (16 U.S.C. 2203) is amended by adding at the end the  
4 following:

5 “(c) PREAGREEMENT COSTS.—

6 “(1) DEFINITION OF SPONSOR.—In this sub-  
7 section, the term ‘sponsor’ means—

8 “(A) a State or local government; and

9 “(B) an Indian Tribe (as defined in section  
10 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-  
11 cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304)).

12 “(2) PREAGREEMENT PROJECT COSTS.—Not  
13 later than 180 days after the date of enactment of  
14 this subsection, the Secretary shall—

15 “(A) identify a list of emergency watershed  
16 protection measures the cost of which may be  
17 incurred by a sponsor prior to entering into an  
18 agreement with the Secretary under this sec-  
19 tion; and

20 “(B) develop a procedure, including appro-  
21 priate deadlines, to be implemented at the State  
22 level, through which a sponsor may request, for  
23 a specified natural disaster, additional emer-  
24 gency watershed protection measures the cost of  
25 which may be incurred by a sponsor prior to en-

1           tering into an agreement with the Secretary  
2           under this section.

3           “(3) AGREEMENT CONTRIBUTION.—If the Sec-  
4           retary and a sponsor enter into an agreement under  
5           this section, the Secretary shall consider any appli-  
6           cable preagreement costs incurred by the sponsor for  
7           undertaking emergency watershed protection meas-  
8           ures identified under paragraph (2) as meeting part  
9           of the contribution of the sponsor toward the cost of  
10          the project.

11          “(4) ASSUMPTION OF RISK.—A sponsor that  
12          undertakes emergency watershed protection meas-  
13          ures prior to entering into an agreement with the  
14          Secretary under this section shall assume the risk of  
15          incurring any cost of undertaking those measures.

16          “(5) EFFECT.—Nothing in this subsection re-  
17          quires the Secretary to enter into an agreement with  
18          a sponsor.”.